

Worship Plan for Christ the King – November 26, 2023

Advent:

Our Church year begins four Sundays before Christmas, the season of Advent. This is the season of hopeful waiting—waiting for Christ's birth and his return. We use the color blue, because it represents hope!

Reading: Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Advent Song: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (LBW 34)

The image shows a musical score for the Advent song "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "1 Oh, come, oh, come, Em-man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Em-man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el." The word "Refrain" is written above the third staff. The music is written in a simple, accessible style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp.

Christmas:

The season of Christmas lasts 12 days, from December 25th until January 5th. This is the season in which we celebrate the birth of Christ. We use the color white to represent the joy and light we find in him.

Reading: Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Christmas Song: Joy to the World (LBW 39)

The image shows a musical score for the Christmas song "Joy to the World" in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing." The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for a children's songbook.

Epiphany:

Then comes the Epiphany of our Lord. The revelation of Jesus to the Wise Men, the Magi, and through them we celebrate Jesus making himself known to us as God made flesh.

Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Epiphany Song: We Three Kings (WOV 646)

1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing
gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.

Refrain
Oh, star of won - der, star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright;
west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

Offering

A Let us pray.

Merciful Father,

C we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of our gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

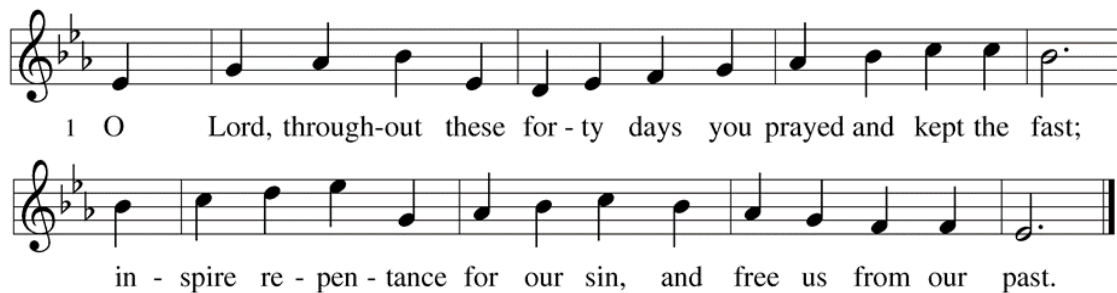
Ash Wednesday & Lent:

Ash Wednesday occurs 46 days before Easter (40 not counting Sundays); we are marked by an ash cross on our foreheads. This begins our journey of Lent, a time to prepare ourselves for Easter. The color purple is used during Lent, which represents repentance and royalty.

Reading: Mark 8:34-37

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?"

Lenten Song: O Lord, throughout These Forty Days (LBW 99)



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a common time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are: "1 O Lord, through-out these for - ty days you prayed and kept the fast;". The second staff continues the melody with quarter and eighth notes, ending with a double bar line. The lyrics are: "in - spire re - pen - tance for our sin, and free us from our past.".

Palm/Passion Sunday:

On this day we remember Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem and his crucifixion there. On this day our paraments are scarlet, to remind us of his blood.

Reading: Matthew 21:5-9

"Tell the daughter of Zion,
Look, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them; they brought the donkey and the colt, and put their cloaks on them, and he sat on them. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and that followed were shouting,

"Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Palm Sunday Song: The Palms

O'er all the way green palms and blossoms gay
Are strewn this day in festal preparation
When Jesus comes to wipe our tears away
E'en now the throng to welcome him prepare.

Chorus:

Join all and sing, His name declare
Let every voice resound with acclamation
Hosanna! Praise to the Lord!
Blessed is He who comes bringing salvation!

Maundy Thursday:

On this day we bear witness to Christ's last supper, his *mandatum* (that is Latin for command) to love one another, and his washing of his disciple's feet as an example of that love. In this service the altar and sanctuary are stripped.

Reading: John 13:34-35

I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

Maundy Thursday Song: Ubi caritas et amore (ELW 642)

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The second system also has a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines.

U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,
Where true char - i - ty and love a - bide,

u - bi ca - ri - tas, De - us i - bi est.
God is dwell - ing there; God is dwell - ing there.

LORD'S PRAYER

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Good Friday:

This is the day when we hear the story of the crucifixion, we meditate on the 7 last words Jesus spoke from the cross and read the account of his Passion according to John's Gospel.

Reading: Psalm 22:1-5

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from helping me, from the words of my groaning?
O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer;
and by night, but find no rest.
Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.
In you our ancestors trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.
To you they cried, and were saved;
in you they trusted, and were not put to shame.

Good Friday Song: Were You There (LBW 92)

I Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
Refrain
Oh, some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.
Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?

Easter:

On this day we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, and then, for the 50 days after Easter we read about his appearing to the disciples and the ways in which the disciples learn to be a resurrection community, as found in the book of Acts. Easter is the only day the color gold can be used, for it represents the glory of the resurrection.

Reading: John 20:11-18

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Easter Song: Jesus Christ Is Risen Today (LBW 151)

The image shows a musical score for the Easter song 'Jesus Christ Is Risen Today' (LBW 151). It consists of four staves of music in G major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The melody is simple and repetitive, with a strong emphasis on the 'Al - le - lu - ia!' refrain. The first staff begins with 'I Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day,' followed by 'Al - le - lu - ia!'. The second staff continues with 'our tri - um - phant ho - ly day,' followed by 'Al - le - lu - ia!'. The third staff has 'who did once up - on the cross,' followed by 'Al - le - lu - ia!'. The fourth staff concludes with 'suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!'.

I Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!

Pentecost:

The day of Pentecost is when we celebrate the Holy Spirit descending on the followers of Christ. The color red is used to remember the tongues of fire the disciples receive.

Reading: Acts 2:1-4

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Pentecost Song: Holy Spirit, Truth Divine (LBW 257)

1 Ho - ly Spir - it, truth di - vine, dawn up - on this soul of mine;
word of God and in - ward light, wake my spir - it, clear my sight.

Trinity:

Trinity Sunday is the day where we let ourselves stand in awe of the mystery of our three in one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The color of the day is white, representing mystery.

Reading: Matthew 28:18-19

And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Trinity Song: Holy, Holy, Holy (LBW 165)

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Season After Pentecost:

The season after Pentecost is our longest season. It focuses on the work of the Church in the world, Jesus' message to us, and our growth in Christ. The color of the season is green, reminding us of growth and life.

Reading: Romans 5:1-5

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Season After Pentecost Song: Jesus Loves Me! (ELW 595)

I Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;
lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.
Refrain
Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,
yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

Reformation Sunday:


The day in which we commemorate Luther's nailing of the 95 Theses on the church door at Wittenberg, starting a series of events that eventually led to the Protestant Reformation. The color of the day is red, because we believe the Holy Spirit is doing a new thing in the ongoing reformation of the Church.

Reading: John 8:31-36

Then Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, "If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free." They answered him, "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, 'You will be made free'?"

Jesus answered them, "Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

Reformation Song: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (LBW 229)



The image shows a musical score for the hymn "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" in G major and 3/4 time. The score consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "I A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic - to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual." The music is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the fifth staff.

I A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.

All Saints Sunday:

As the name implies, the Festival of All Saints is when we celebrate all the saints, both known and unknown. As protestants it is often a time to reflect on the idea of the way in which all baptized Christians are saints; it has come to be a time to commemoration all the dead. We wear white to remember the resurrection and that startling image in Revelation of those saints robed in white.

Reading: Revelation 21:1-6

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

All Saints Song: For All the Saints (LBW 174)

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'For All the Saints'. It consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature (C). The lyrics are: '1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest,'. The second staff continues: 'all who by faith be - fore the world con - fessed,'. The third staff continues: 'your name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.' The fourth staff concludes with: 'Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!'.

1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest,
all who by faith be - fore the world con - fessed,
your name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Christ the King:

The last day of the church year is Christ the King Sunday, where we celebrate the hidden reality that Christ reigns and proclaim him king of all.

Reading: Luke 23:33-43

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Christ the King Song: Rejoice, the Lord Is King, (LBW 171)

1 Re - joice, the Lord is king! Your Lord and king a - dore;
re - joice, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more:
Refrain
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; re -
joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace, the Lord is King.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE